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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**Please amend the claims as follows:**

1-4. (Canceled)

5. (Withdrawn) An implantable cardiac stimulation device according to Claim 1 further comprising:

a physiologic sensor that measures QT interval and activates sleep apnea preventive pacing when the QT interval exceeds a threshold value.

6. (Withdrawn) An implantable cardiac stimulation device according to Claim 1 further comprising:

a physiologic sensor that measures cardiac conductivity and activates sleep apnea preventive pacing when cardiac conductivity is depressed during sleep.

7. (Withdrawn) An implantable cardiac stimulation device according to Claim 1 further comprising:

a physiologic sensor that measures cardiac contractility and activates sleep apnea preventive pacing when cardiac contractility is reduced during sleep.

8. (Withdrawn) An implantable cardiac stimulation device according to Claim 1 further comprising:

a physiologic sensor that measures evoked response amplitude and evoked response duration and activates sleep apnea preventive pacing when evoked response amplitude is decreased and evoked response duration is increased during sleep.

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9. (Withdrawn) An implantable cardiac stimulation device according to Claim 1 further comprising:

a physiologic sensor that measures evoked response amplitude and evoked response duration and activates sleep apnea preventive pacing when evoked response amplitude is decreased and evoked response duration is increased during sleep; and

a physiologic sensor that measures paced depolarization integral (PDI) and activates sleep apnea preventive pacing when PDI is depressed during sleep.

10. (Withdrawn) An implantable cardiac stimulation device according to Claim 1 further comprising:

a physiologic sensor that measures stroke volume and activates sleep apnea preventive pacing when stroke volume increases when a patient is in a supine position.

11. (Withdrawn) An implantable cardiac stimulation device according to Claim 1 further comprising:

a physiologic sensor that measures paced depolarization integral (PDI) and activates sleep apnea preventive pacing when PDI is depressed during sleep.

12. (Withdrawn) An implantable cardiac stimulation device according to Claim 1 further comprising:

a physiologic sensor that measures blood oxygen concentration and activates sleep apnea preventive pacing when blood oxygen concentration is depressed during sleep.

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13. (Withdrawn) An implantable cardiac stimulation device according to Claim 1 further comprising:

a physiologic sensor that measures blood carbon dioxide concentration and activates sleep apnea preventive pacing when blood carbon dioxide concentration is elevated during sleep.

14-17. (Canceled)

18. (Currently Amended) A method of operating an implantable cardiac stimulation device consisting of:

detecting one of a resting condition ~~and~~ or a sleep condition; and
generating cardiac pacing pulses at a sleep apnea prevention rate in response to detection of one of the resting condition ~~and~~ or the sleep condition.

19. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 18, wherein ~~detection a potential sleep apnea condition~~ detecting one of a resting condition or a sleep condition comprises detecting a sleeping state of a patient.

20. (Original) A method according to Claim 18 further comprising:
distinguishing between a sleeping condition and a waking condition of a patient;
timing generation of the cardiac pacing pulses; and
controlling the timed cardiac pacing pulses at a sleep apnea prevention rate.

21. (Original) A method according to Claim 18 further comprising:
distinguishing between a sleeping condition and a waking condition of a patient;
and
timing cardiac pacing pulse generation to pace at a rate greater than the resting rate in response to detection of a sleeping condition.